



The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events
For York County Extension Volunteers

Vol. 4, Issue 7
July 1, 2003

Calendar of Events

Aug. 14, 7-9pm	TAP Seminar - <i>Protecting Trees</i> , NBG Holly Room; Reg. Req.
Aug. 23, 10am-12n	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Grafton True Value
Aug. 23, 10am-4pm	Butterfly Festival 2003, see current article
Sept. 2	Master Gardener Training Classes begin
Sept. 6, 10am-12n	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Lakes at Dare
Sept. 9, 9:30am	Programming Meeting, St. Luke's
Sept. 11, 7-9pm	TAP Seminar - <i>Diagnosing Tree Problems</i> , NBG Holly Room; Reg. Req.
Sept. 13, 10am-12n	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Marlbank
Sept. 20, 10am-12n	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Kiln Creek
Sept. 25-Oct. 5	Virginia State Fair
Sept. 27, 10am-12n	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, The Greener Side in Williamsburg
Sept. 27	VMGA Continuing Education - Monticello
Oct. 9, 7-9pm	TAP Seminar - <i>Tree Health Care</i> , NBG Holly Room; Reg. Req.
Nov. 13, 7-9pm	TAP Seminar - <i>Tree Hazards</i> , NBG Holly Room; Reg. Req.

Thursdays Work/Learn Day in the Learning Garden 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events contact Jody at 890-4940 or Wanda Turner at 898-0653, e-mail: wgt00@cox.net. The deadline for the Green Thumb is ALWAYS the 15th of the month, no exception.

E-mail changes: If you have changes to any of the methods of communication to you please notify Jody. Jody will pass the word. We want to keep in contact with you. These changes will be posted to the weekly e-mails and will be in the Green Thumb.

Master Gardener Mission Statement

Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Notes from Jim

Did you know? Many Master Gardeners helped us extensively during our 4-H camp week. Master Gardeners spent the entire week at camp, and others taught classes during the campers stay. This was very helpful as we continue to navigate the 4-H program without a 4-H agent. Thank you for all of your help and support.

Thanks to all Master Gardeners that continue to respond to phone calls while I am not in the office. It keeps a valuable presence for the public.

2003 NACo Achievement Award

The National Association of Counties has awarded York County a 2003 NACo Achievement Award for our 4-H Lawn Mowing Training Program, better known to us as “Mondays in March”. The award formally recognizes effective and innovative programs that contribute to and enhance county governments. Awards are made in more than 20 categories, ranging from Arts and Historic Preservation to Volunteerism. In this, the 34th year of the program, the winners represent 24 states and 107 counties. A list of the winning programs will be available at www.naco.org. Summaries of the award winning programs will be included in the Model County Programs Database at www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Model County Programs. Also, over the next several months, selections of award winning programs will be highlighted in the *County News* in the column, “Hats Off”. Kudos to our 4-H Lawn Committee, they really deserve it for creating such an interesting and effective way to teach our youth !!!

2003 Master Gardener Training

Classes for the 2003 Master Gardener Training Program will begin on September 2nd. The training will be held each Tuesday and Friday morning from 9am to 12 noon at the Tabb Branch Library on Owen Davis Boulevard off of Route 134. Interviews were conducted during the month of June and 18 applicants were chosen as the 2003 Master Gardener Trainees. A tentative schedule and list of instructors is available on our website. (www.yorkcounty.gov/vce) Current Master Gardeners are welcome to attend if you are interested in refreshing your memory or perhaps a particular instructor.

Lawn Team

Sixteen (16) Master Gardeners received their advanced training June 24th to assist with the lawn team this year. Since there was a large number of new participants this year, there will be 2 practice sessions to familiarize everyone with the program. The first session will be at Hank Scheele’s home on July 8, and the second will be at Ricki Nobles home on July 22. Due to an enthusiastic response to the request for a few good lawns, there will be 7 clinics for the 2003 season. The schedule is posted on the Calendar of Events.

Two Garden Visits Remain in Landscape Study Program

On Wednesday, July 9, York County Master Gardeners will visit the Garden of Hampton Master Gardener Helena Letzelter (722-7229) at 141 East Virginia Avenue, Hampton (Phoebus). This garden has an outstanding variety of plants, trees and shrubs in a garden overlooking the Chesapeake Bay. It features two ponds, aquatic plants, ducks, and a resident Emu.

Directions: Follow Mercury Blvd. From Hampton to Phoebus. Turn left onto VA-169 (Mallory Street) and go East for 0.86 miles to Virginia Ave. Turn right onto Virginia Avenue, and go Southeast for 0.13 miles Helena's home is on the left at 141 E. Virginia Ave.

An additional garden visit will be made on July 16 to the garden of York Master Gardener Kathy Van Mullekom at 303 Dawson Drive in Seaford. (898-0653). Kathy is the Garden Editor for the Daily Press. Directions to Kathy's Garden will be forwarded by message to York County Master Gardeners.

Visits will run from 9:30 until noon. All York County Master Gardeners are welcome to participate but please pre-register with Jody, so that we can have an estimate of the numbers attending. Coordinators for the program are Audrey Rae and Steve Hinderliter (868-7609).

"BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL 2003 - Butterflies Are A Rainbow Of Colors"

The Butterfly Society of Virginia will host "Butterfly Festival 2003 - Butterflies Are A Rainbow Of Colors" - on Saturday, August 23, 2003, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Virginia Beach - Rain or Shine. An event for the entire family, admission and parking at the Center will be free.

Festival goers can learn about these fascinating creatures during the Festival and tour the butterfly garden on walks led by butterfly Society members, enjoy craft activities planned for the young and young-at-heart, make a caterpillar rearing cage, and see various exhibits. Everyone can also find out about butterflies/caterpillars and how to bring them to their own gardens during the slide presentations throughout the day, and shop at a terrific plant sale featuring great prices on hard to find butterfly nectar and host plants. Butterfly related book, T-shirts and novelties will also be available for purchase.

This will be a great event for butterfly enthusiasts, would-be butterflyers and anyone wanting to learn more about the butterflies and have fun. There are picnic tables on the Center grounds for those bring their lunches and some light refreshments will be offered for sale.

For more information, contact Festival Co-Chairs, Susan Schaffner at (757) 548-5956 (bfyfest03@earthlink.net) or Don Snipes at (757) 625-7143 (drsnipes@cox.net).

Charleston Trip

For those of you who were unable to go on our yearly educational trip you missed a wonderful experience.

There were 28 people in caravan headed down Interstate 95 towards Charleston S. C. All were Master Gardeners, relatives, close friends, and of course Dr. Dave Banks. We had some wonderful times getting to know each other a little better, visiting wonderful gardens, just enjoying fellowship, eating at every opportunity and dodging a few tornadoes.

The Master Gardeners of Charleston were kind and gracious to us along with the Extension Agent Brian Smith. Brian herded us through a tight schedule for the first two days. The Master Gardeners hosted a lovely reception for our group of tired weary sightseeing travelers. The reception was held on our first day at the Bed and Breakfast of one of the MGs, where at least 40 to 50 Charleston MGs attended and each of them must have brought food. These folks expressed their desires to come to Virginia on an educational trip. So we could have some work cut out for us returning the welcome we received.

The gardens were GREAT. The first day Rosanne Wray a Charleston MG lead us through many private gardens in downtown Charleston. We enjoyed a lovely luncheon from the top floor of the Holiday Inn overlooking all of Charleston and the Ashley River. From there the City Horticulturist took us on a tour of the greenhouses and a nearby park, just an example of one of the many city parks she is responsible for landscaping. Then it was on to the reception and on our own for the evening.

Thursday we visited Middleton Plantation and Magnolia Place, two rice plantations with restored gardens. Such a joy to visit gardens with Jim Orband and Dr. Dave Banks. The weather was HOT and HUMID but the gardens and company were great. We happened upon a wonderful Seafood Restaurant that evening before our drive to Pawley's Island to spend the night.

When the gates to Brookgreen Gardens were opened on Friday morning our little caravan was in line eagerly awaiting another garden exploration. Some of our folks shared with me that we had saved the best for last but I would be hard pressed to choose. The gardens at Brookgreen are very impressive and the statues add so much to an atmosphere of peace and serenity.

We were tired and hungry, of course, gardeners as we headed back up Interstate 95 towards Virginia. Some of us dodged tornadoes after crossing the Virginia line and I know I was glad to be home again but so happy I had taken this trip.

Working on next year's trip, any suggestions let me know. Eleanor Hill

Virginia Cooperative Extension
York County Office
100 County Drive
PO Box 532
Yorktown VA 23690-0532
(757) 890-4940 / Fax 890-4033
jorband@vt.edu

We're on the Web!
www.yorkcounty.gov/vce

JULY 2003

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	4-H Summer Residential Camp	1 4-H Summer Residential Camp	2 4-H Summer Residential Camp	3 4-H Summer Residential Camp	4 4-H Summer Residential Camp	5
6	7	8 Lawn Team Practice Session Hank Scheele 833-6362	9 9:30am-n Learning Through Visits Phoebus (see article)	10 7-9pm TAP Seminar <i>Tree Pruning</i> NBG Holly Rm.	11	12
13	14	15	16 9:30am-n Visit Kathy Van Mullekom's Garden (see article)	17	18	19 10am-12n Renovation Lawn Clinic Grafton
20	21	22 10am Hort Therapy Seena 898-6553 Lawn Team Practice Ricki Noble 898-2930	23	24	25	26 10am-12 n Renovation Lawn Clinic Queens Lake
27	28	29	30	31		